

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amendments:

Claims 1-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising an inducible transcription regulator element comprising: a minimal promoter comprising a TATA sequence and at least two sets of paired tetracycline operator elements, wherein the tetracycline operator elements are arranged wherein a first set comprising a first and a second phased tetracycline operator are downstream from the TATA sequence, and a second set comprising a third and a fourth phased tetracycline operator are upstream from the TATA sequence.

32. (Previously presented) The expression vector of claim 31, wherein the first set of two phased tetracycline operators downstream from the TATA sequence begin at a position 21 basepairs downstream from the position of the TATA sequence in the expression vector.

33. (Previously presented) The expression vector of claim 31, wherein the second set of two phased tetracycline operators upstream from the TATA sequence begin at a position 11 basepairs upstream from the position of the TATA sequence in the expression vector.

34. (Previously presented) The expression vector of claim 31, wherein: (a) the first set of two phased tetracycline operators downstream from the TATA sequence begin at a position 21 basepairs downstream from the position of the TATA sequence in the expression vector; and (b) the second set of two phased tetracycline operators upstream from the TATA sequence begin at a position 11 basepairs upstream from the position of the TATA sequence in the expression vector.

35. (Original) The expression vector of claim 31, wherein the minimal promoter is a CMV promoter.

36. (Original) The expression vector of claim 31, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

37. (Original) The expression vector of claim 36, wherein the viral vector is a retroviral vector.

38. (Original) The expression vector of claim 37, wherein the retroviral vector is a Moloney strain murine leukemia virus vector.

39. (Original) The expression vector of claim 31, further comprising a gene operably linked to the promoter.

40. (Currently amended) The expression vector of claim 31 39, ~~wherein the gene encodes~~ further comprising one or a plurality of cyclin dependent kinase ~~inhibitors~~ inhibitor genes operably linked to the promoter.

41. (Original) The expression vector of claim 40, wherein the cyclin dependent kinase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of p21, p27, p57, p15, p16, p18, and p19.

42. (Previously presented) The expression vector of claim 41, wherein the vector encodes more than one cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor selected from the group consisting of p21, p27, p57, p15, p16, p18, and p19.

Claims 43-60. (Cancelled)

Claim 63. (Cancelled)